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My Friend

My friends have come to me
unsought. The great God
gave them to me.—*Emerson.*

This little book on Friendship is compiled by
James Frederick Mason, decorated by Amelia
de Wolffers, and published in New York
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East Twentieth Street.

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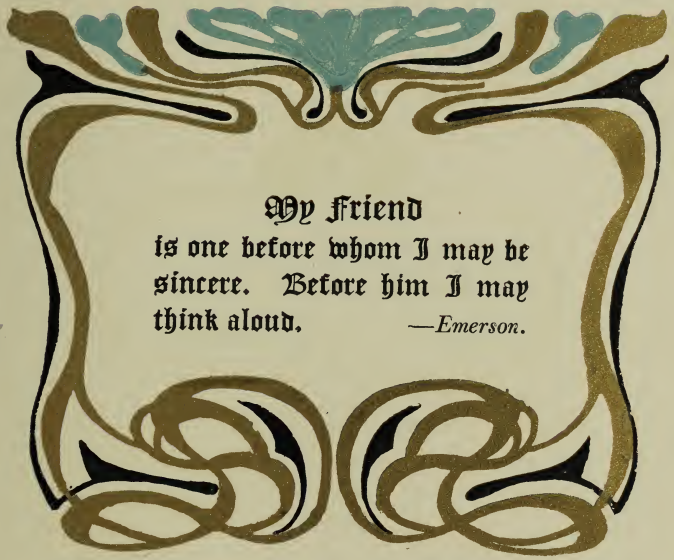
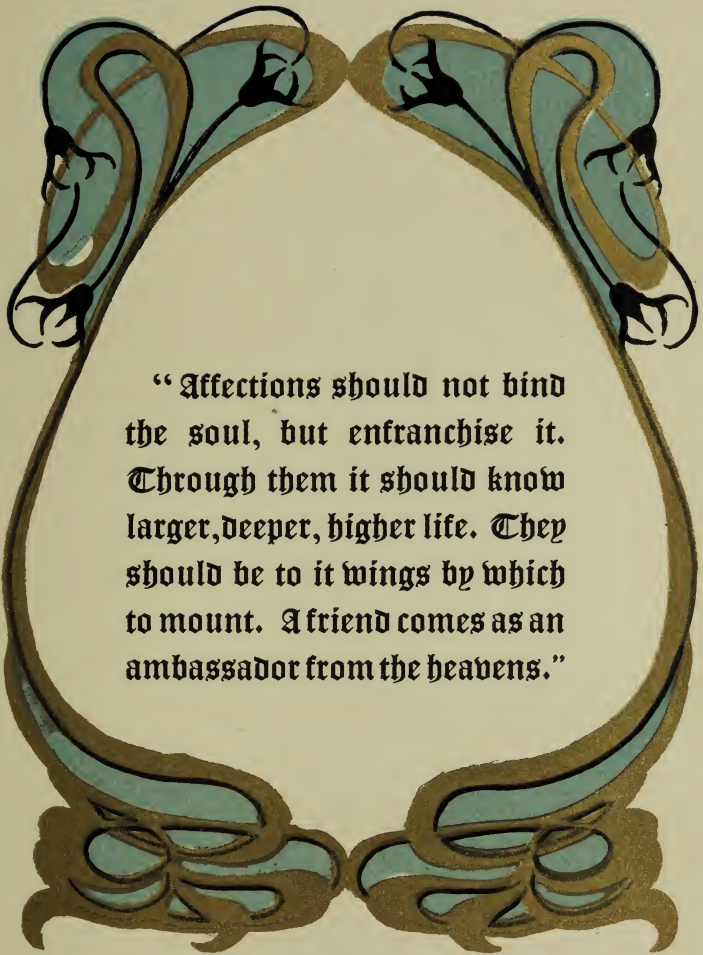
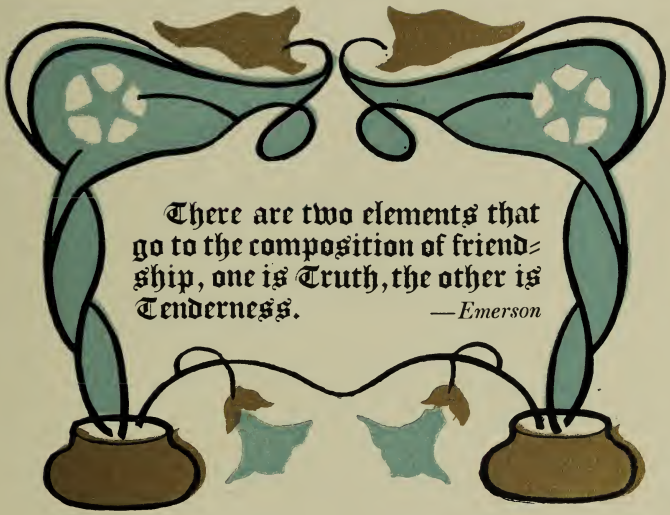

My Friend
is one before whom I may be
sincere. Before him I may
think aloud. —Emerson.


"Affections should not bind
the soul, but enfranchise it.
Through them it should know
larger, deeper, higher life. They
should be to it wings by which
to mount. A friend comes as an
ambassador from the heavens."


There are two elements that go to the composition of friendship, one is Truth, the other is Tenderness.
—Emerson

"Blest be the tongue that speaks no ill,
Whose words are always true,
That keeps 'the law of kindness' still
Whatever others do.

Blest be the hands that toil to aid
The great world's ceaseless need—
The hands that never are afraid,
To do a kindly deed."

Go often to the house of thy friend, for weeds choke up the unused path. —Scandinavian Edda.

So many little faults we
find;
We see them, for not blind
Is love; we see them, but
if you and I
Perhaps remember them
some by and by
They will not be
Faults then—grave faults
—to you and me,
But just odd ways, mis-
takes, or even less,
Remembrances to bless.

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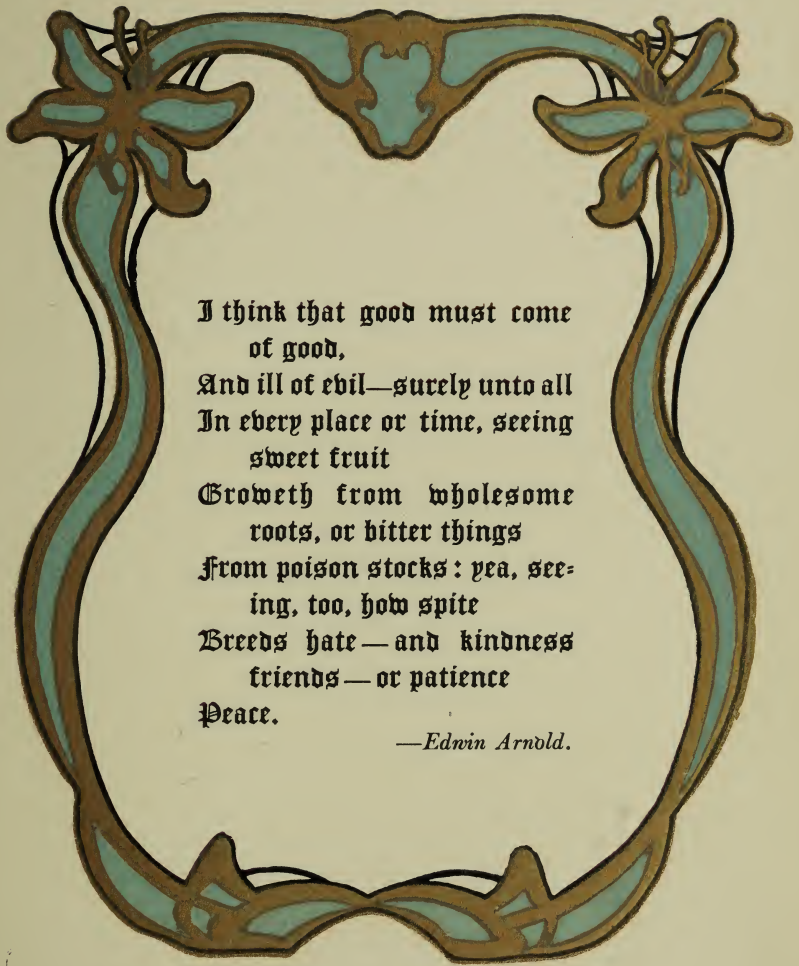
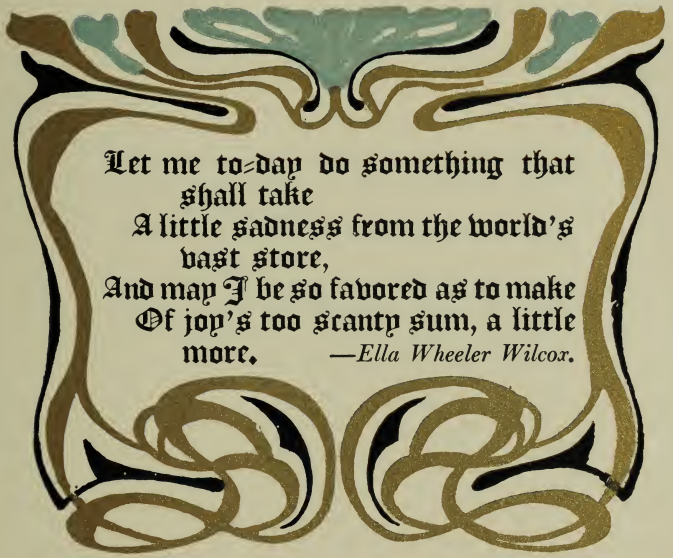
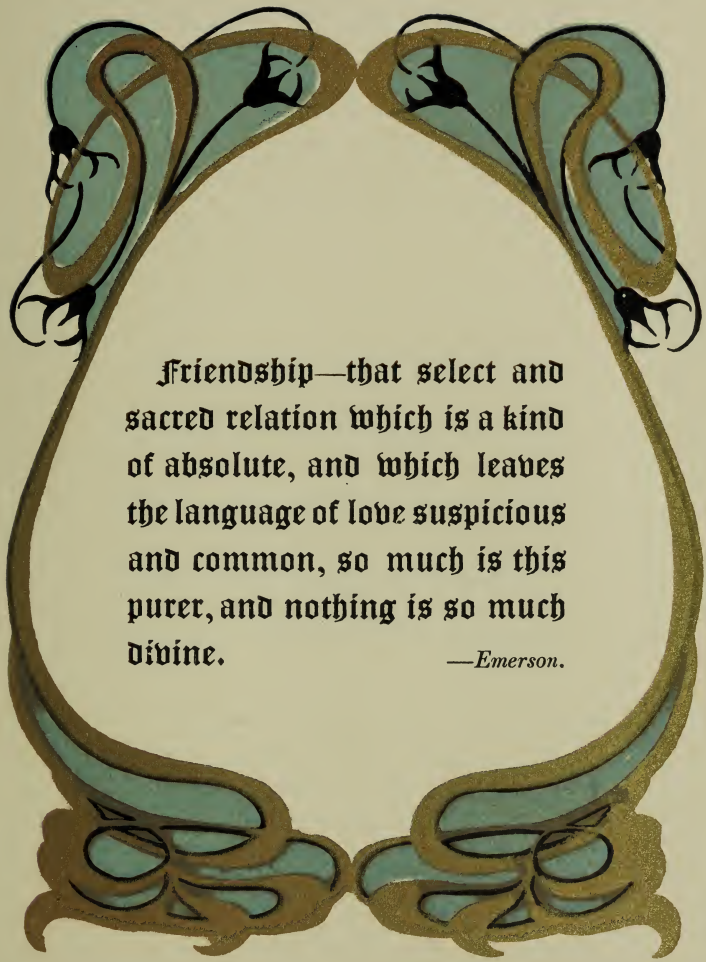
The essence of friendship is entireness, a total magnanimity and trust. It must not surmise or provide for infirmity. It treats its object as a God, that it may deify both.
—Emerson.



I think that good must come
of good,
And ill of evil—surely unto all
In every place or time, seeing
sweet fruit
Groweth from wholesome
roots, or bitter things
From poison stocks: yea, see-
ing, too, how spite
Breeds hate — and kindness
friends — or patience
Peace.

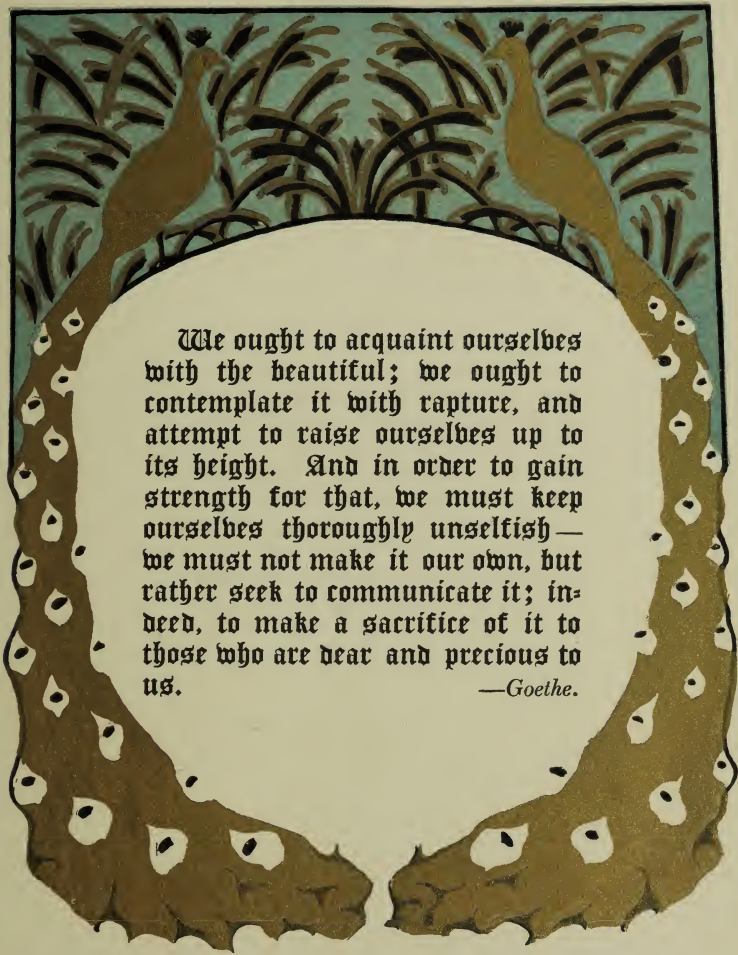
—*Edwin Arnold.*


Let me to-day do something that
shall take
A little sadness from the world's
vast store,
And may I be so favored as to make
Of joy's too scanty sum, a little
more. —Ella Wheeler Wilcox.



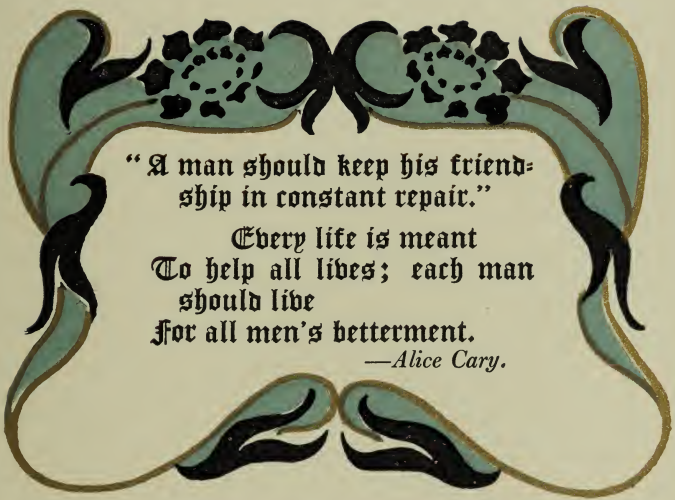
Friendship—that select and sacred relation which is a kind of absolute, and which leaves the language of love suspicious and common, so much is this purer, and nothing is so much divine.

—*Emerson.*



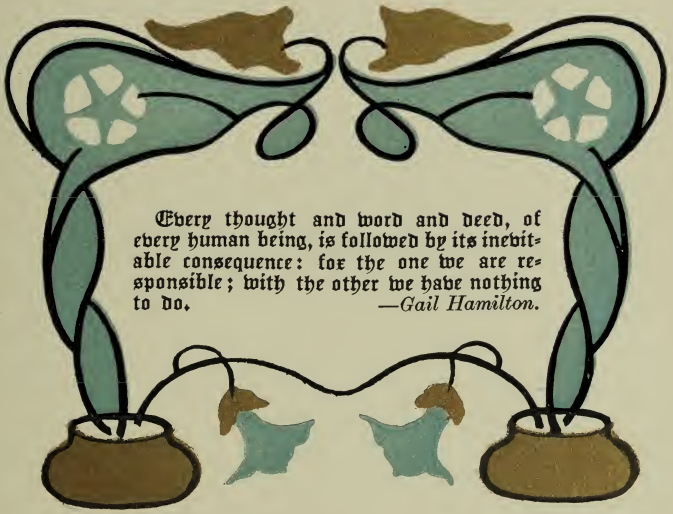
We ought to acquaint ourselves with the beautiful; we ought to contemplate it with rapture, and attempt to raise ourselves up to its height. And in order to gain strength for that, we must keep ourselves thoroughly unselfish—we must not make it our own, but rather seek to communicate it; indeed, to make a sacrifice of it to those who are dear and precious to us.

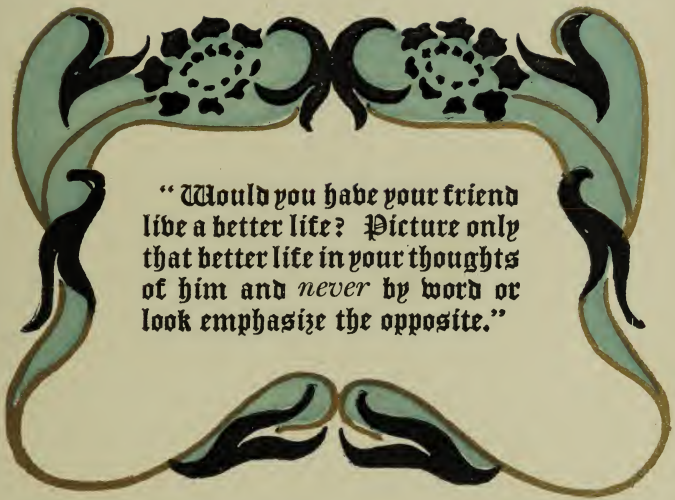
—*Goethe.*

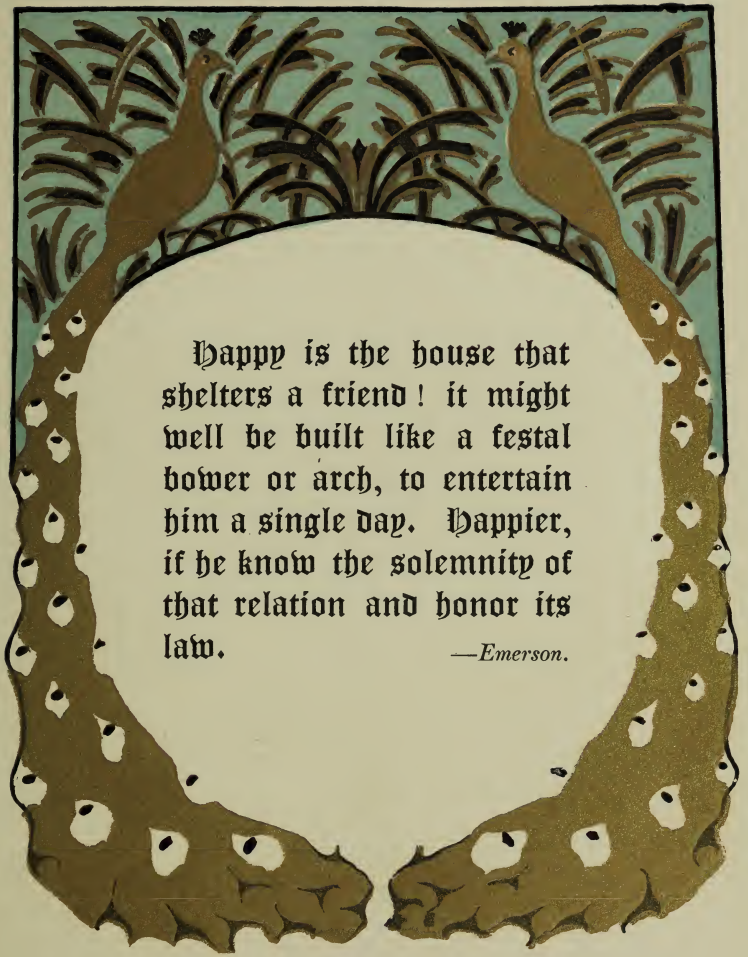

"A man should keep his friend-
ship in constant repair."
Every life is meant
To help all lives; each man
should live
For all men's betterment.
—Alice Cary.

"Silence, or neglect dissolves many friendships."

"Friendship supplies the place of everything to those who know how to make the right use of it; it makes your prosperity more happy, and it makes your adversity more easy."

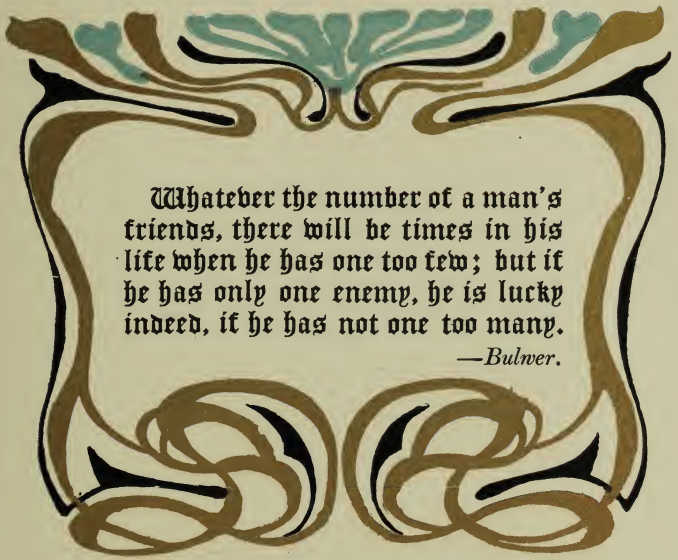

Every thought and word and deed, of every human being, is followed by its inevitable consequence: for the one we are responsible; with the other we have nothing to do.
—Gail Hamilton.

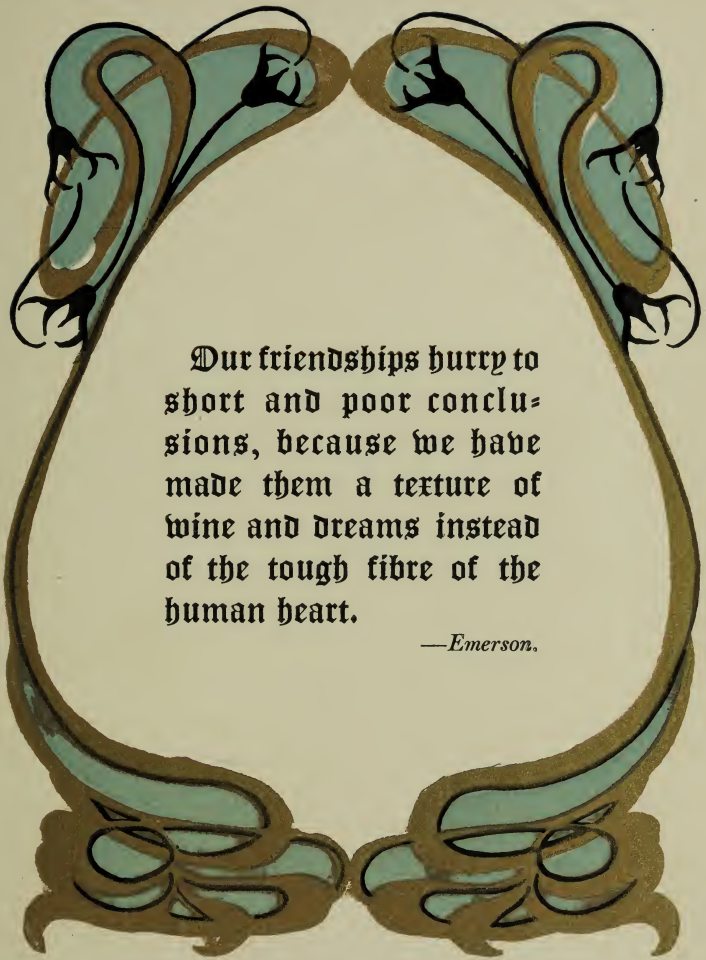

"Would you have your friend
live a better life? Picture only
that better life in your thoughts
of him and *never* by word or
look emphasize the opposite."



Happy is the house that shelters a friend! it might well be built like a festal bower or arch, to entertain him a single day. Happier, if he know the solemnity of that relation and honor its law.

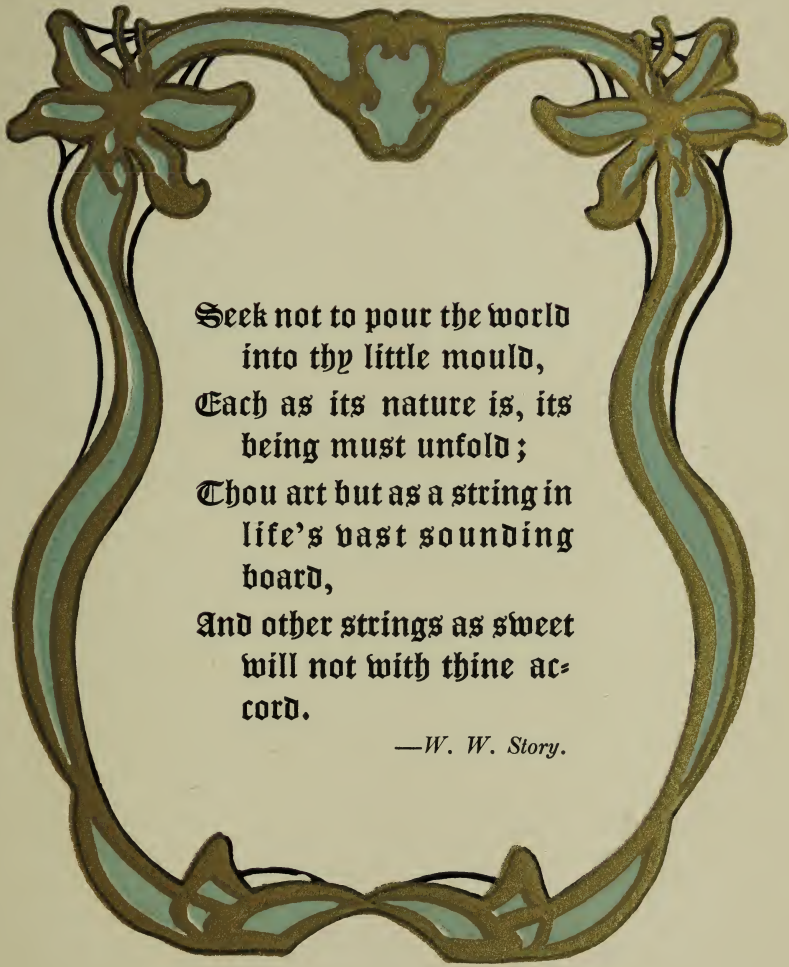
—*Emerson.*


Whatever the number of a man's friends, there will be times in his life when he has one too few; but if he has only one enemy, he is lucky indeed, if he has not one too many.
—Bulwer.



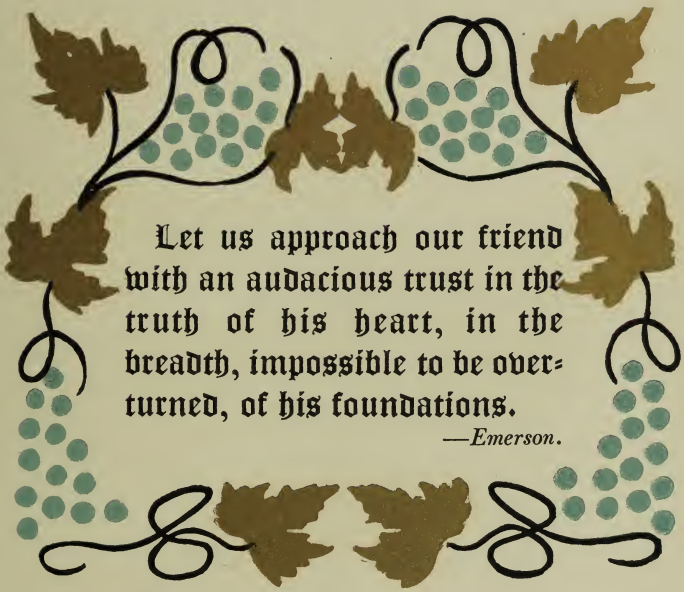
Our friendships hurry to short and poor conclusions, because we have made them a texture of wine and dreams instead of the tough fibre of the human heart.

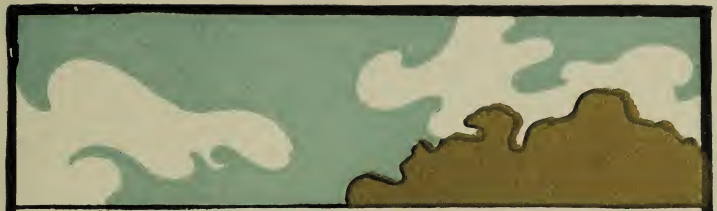
—*Emerson.*



Seek not to pour the world
into thy little mould,
Each as its nature is, its
being must unfold;
Thou art but as a string in
life's vast sounding
board,
And other strings as sweet
will not with thine ac-
cord.

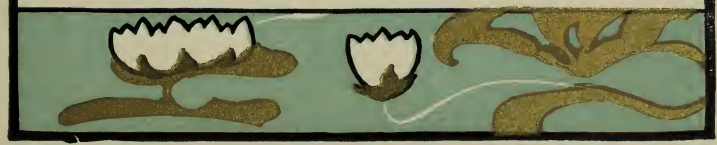
—*W. W. Story.*


Let us approach our friend with an audacious trust in the truth of his heart, in the breadth, impossible to be overturned, of his foundations.
—Emerson.



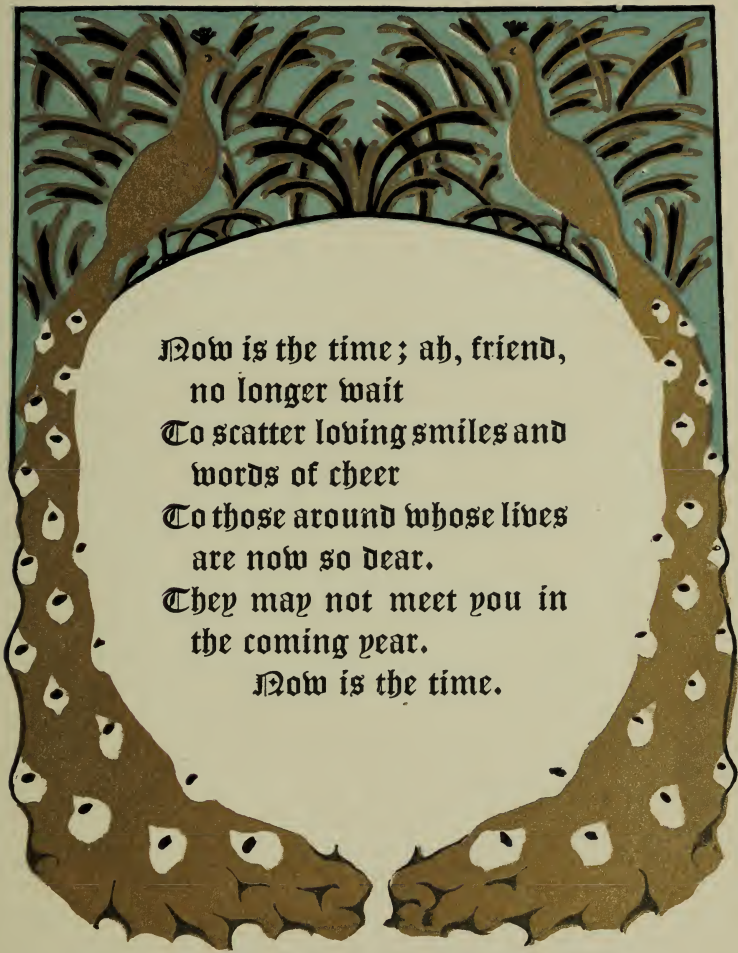
Do not look forward to what might happen to-morrow; the same everlasting Father who cares for you to-day, will take care of you to-morrow, and every day. Either He will shield you from suffering, or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace then, and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations.

—*St. Francis de Sales.*



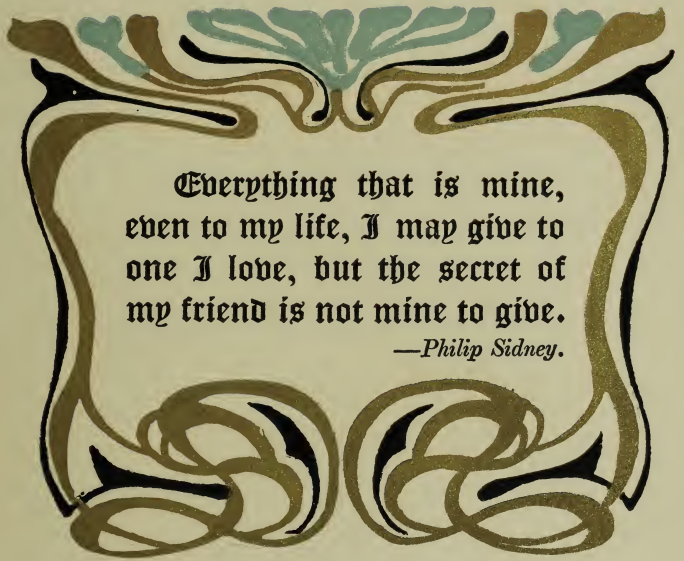
That best portion of a good man's life,—
His little, nameless, unremembered acts
Of kindness and of love. —*Wordsworth.*

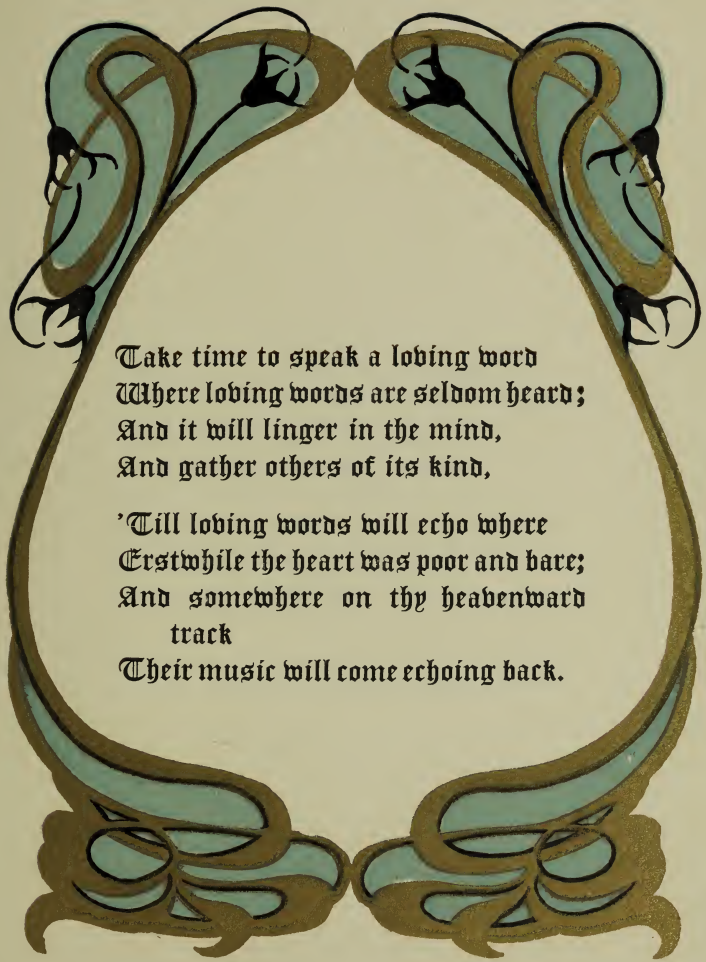
When friendships are real, they are not the glass threads or frost-work, but the solidest things we know.
—Emerson.


Now is the time; ah, friend,
no longer wait
To scatter loving smiles and
words of cheer
To those around whose lives
are now so dear.
They may not meet you in
the coming year.
Now is the time.

I awake this morning with
devout thanksgiving for my
friends, the old and the new.
—Emerson.

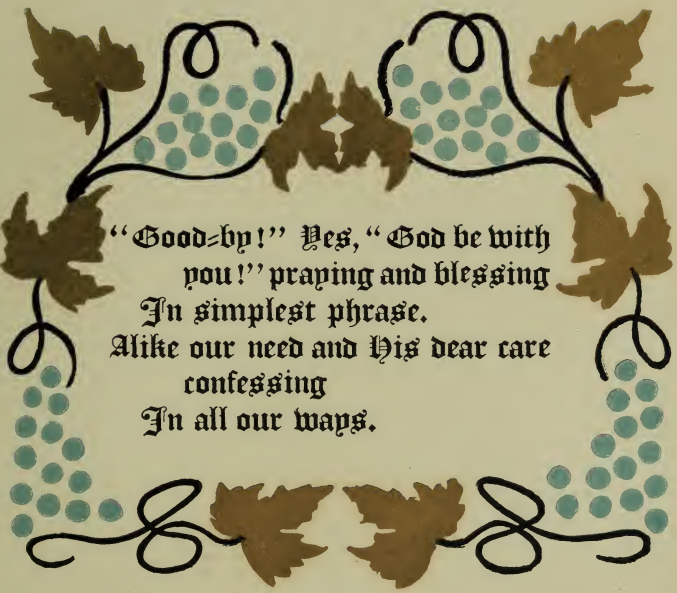
Brow may wrinkle, hair turn grey,
Friendship never owns decay;
For 'mid old friends kind and true
We once more our youth renew.
But, alas, old friends must die;
New friends must their place supply.
Then cherish friendship in your breast;
New is good, but old is best.
Make new friends, but keep the old;
Those are silver these are gold.


Everything that is mine, even to my life, I may give to one I love, but the secret of my friend is not mine to give.
—Philip Sidney.



Take time to speak a loving word
Where loving words are seldom heard;
And it will linger in the mind,
And gather others of its kind,

'Till loving words will echo where
Erstwhile the heart was poor and bare;
And somewhere on thy heavenward
track
Their music will come echoing back.


"Good-by!" Yes, "God be with
you!" praying and blessing
In simplest phrase.
Alike our need and His dear care
confessing
In all our ways.

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